

Current Affairs

Section II:

Q#2:

Pak-Afghan Relations in the wake of increasing TTP and ISKP attacks using Afghan soil:

Ans 2: Introduction :

The recent uptick in terrorist attacks from TTP and ISKP using Afghan soil has deteriorated Pak-Afghan relations. Not only has it fostered mistrust between the two states, it has also stimulated Pakistan's reaction to which has further added fuel to the fire.

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How relations have changed
in the wake of attacks:

1- Pakistan has repatriated millions of Afghans adding to the already growing resentment:

The decision of the caretaker setup to expatriate millions of Afghans back to their homeland has not only angered the already crisis stricken Afghan government, but has also created resentment in the hearts of the expelled Afghans who now express their disappointment through social media videos. Feelings of revenge are expressed in these videos due to loss of employment, home and other needs of life.

2. Attack on Afghanistan by Pakistan :

Pakistan's attack on Afghanistan's bordering city was intended to kill a terrorist sanctuary.

However, while the terrorists were killed, Afghanistan - Pakistan tension escalated. Warnings from Afghan government of retaliation were received by Pakistan.

This further damaged the relations between the two neighbouring states.

Policy Measures to :

A) Overcome the crises of terrorism

1- Intelligence sharing between government and intelligence agencies should be encouraged to precisely target TTP sanctuaries and identify proxy elements and external adversaries exploiting the fault lines.
Identifying terrorist funding networks

is also crucial to eliminate this menace of terrorism.

2. Tighten Security on borders:

Porous borders have always aided the easy movement of terrorists between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Trade and movement at borders like "chaman" should be subjected to strict scrutiny. Passports and other identification methods should be employed. Digitization of these mechanisms should also be encouraged and funded.

3. Seeking Help from organisations like SCO:

Regional cooperation through platforms like SCO ~~can~~ should be adopted. Joint military trainings and collaborated effort to eradicate the threat of terrorism is crucial. This would not only protect Pakistan's security, but would also serve the interests of other nations

like China in security of CPEC.

Policy Measures to:

B) Improve Relations with Afghanistan:

1: Diplomacy and Negotiations:

Exchange of Ambassadors, cultural exchanges and negotiations between Taliban and government of Pakistan can help ease the tensions that which have developed recently. Emphasis on similarities and history should also be adopted.

2- Trade:

Increased bilateral trade between Afghanistan and Pakistan as well as inclusion of Afghanistan in CPEC and initiation of TAPA can significantly improve regional cooperation and develop cordial relations.

3. Seeking help from common allies:

China can be a great mediator in diffusing tensions between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Since China has invested billions of dollars in Afghanistan, it can mount diplomatic pressure on Afghanistan to stop providing safe havens to TTP and ISKP. Also, because China is concerned about the security of CPEC, it will willingly take part in Pak-Afghan negotiations.

Q#6 Introduction :-

Spectre of

Climate change is a looming global threat. Sadly, nations which are the least contributors to factors leading to climate change, bear the brunt of it. These include Pakistan, African countries and the Sahel region. Conference of Parties is the annual climate change summit where both developed and underdeveloped nations gather to discuss policies mitigating climate change.

What is the "Losses and Damages" Fund in COP-27?

Ans: COP-27, held in 2022, was attended by both developed and underdeveloping nations. Since the year 2022 has been filled with events of catastrophes caused by climate change and the victims were underdeveloping

nations like Pakistan and China Africa who contributed the least to climate change. For example, Pakistan contributes less than 1% GHG emissions. Hence

So, to compensate these nations, it was decided to set up a fund named "loss and damage" fund where countries who are the major emitters of Greenhouse gases (GHG) will compensate the low-contributing ones. Funds will be utilized to rebuild the lost and damaged infrastructure and make these nations climate resilient.

Opportunities for Practical Mobilization and Pakistan:

Funds from the "loss and damage" fund can be practically mobilized in various ways including transition to green energy, rehabilitation, reconstruction and much more. Pakistan can wisely utilize these.

funds and attain the intended benefits :

1- Transition to Green Energy:

Pakistan can use these funds to transition away from non-renewable energy sources such as coal and, instead, incorporate solar panels, wind energy (mills) and dams to generate hydroelectric power for industrial as well as domestic uses. This will not only reduce the cost of expensive fuel imports but and boost industries, it will also help Pakistan in carbon trading (crediting) which will boost its economy.

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2- Reconstruction and Rehabilitation:

Dams and barrages should be constructed with the allocated funds. It will not only reduce the menace of water scarcity, but will also prevent future flooding making Pakistan climate resilient. Critical infrastructure such as schools, housing, hospitals, roads, internet and mobile towers can rehabilitate and re-establish the flood-affected individuals of 2022.

3- AI (Artificial Intelligence) based sensors and improved farming tech:

AI based sensors, as used by Japan, can be developed using the funds. These will help in early detection of disasters and pre-evacuation, reducing the extent of disasters. Early ^{quick} harvest ~~harvest~~ methods can be employed by using funds to modernize agriculture preventing food insecurity.

Q#1 : Introduction:

China and Taiwan's enmity is a territorial dispute. China claims Taiwan to be its integral part but Taiwan claims independence from China. A risk of major escalation, ^{is} always there between the two states which can have grave implications on global security and economy.

What is "One China Two Systems" Policy?

Ans:

"One China Two Systems" policy is a Chinese policy which, by "One China" asserts that Taiwan is an integral part of China and by "Two Systems" means the different economic, administrative and military systems of China and Taiwan under the one-flag of China. It basically means that

China and Taiwan are ^{one} single territory with two different systems of operation.

How US policy towards Taiwan is hurting it?

1. US help to Taiwan in case of war:

Not only does the US export weapons to Taiwan, it guarantees to protect Taiwan in case of attack from PRC. By strengthening Taiwan militarily and vowing to come to its help, it is making it a Chinese intervention in Taiwan challenging and difficult.

2. Building navy in South-China Sea:

Protecting containing China in the South-China sea by forming alliances such as Quad and AUKUS, Chinese intentions to annex Taiwan are.

becoming difficult through such US policies.

"Implications of U.S intervention in China's -Taiwan policy and issue"

1- Strained US-China relations:
China's Strained US-China relations can disrupt the global stability and result in cold a world war between US-allies and China-allies.

This would not only disrupt global security, but would also disrupt the global supply chain, resulting in food and commodity shortages. As China is the greatest importer of U.S. in agricultural items, it can cause food shortage in China and unemployment in U.S.

Tech industry in Pakistan and China will also face serious set-backs.

Recommendations for US and China:

U.S.:

1- U.S should deploy only and export only enough arms to Taiwan to maintain deterrence between the two. Overly-export of such goods can result in making China insecure and could pose threats to global security.

2- U.S should work on its industry and its competitiveness rather than containing China under the guise of protecting Taiwan. It should work on its solar panels and technology to compete with China in the global market.

China :-

1- China should work on building diplomatic ties with neighbours like India and other states in the region like Japan and Phillipines.

This would help to avert the chances of a world war in case of any conflict with China and US. Creating interdependency through bilateral trade can also help.

2- Diplomatic ties with US via scholarships, technological exchange should be adopted.

Quick diffusion of tensions in case of any conflict should be adopted to mitigate global implications.

Q#8: Introduction :-

Pakistan is blessed with natural resources such as gold, copper, salts and other important goods.

In the rapidly growing world of globalisation and increased demand for technology and other commodities, Pakistan ~~is an~~ ^{becomes} an important player due to its rich resources. Special investment ^{is} facilitated council works to attract invest-
-ment.

Chances of investment from Middle-East:

1) Iran:

Burdened by US sanctions and holding huge reserves of gas, Iran looks for investment in gas related project in the ~~is~~ crisis stricken Pakistan. The huge supply of Iran and the huge demand of Pakistan, complement each other's needs. Iran gas pipeline project is a prime

of it.

2. Saudi Arabia:

The huge gold and copper reserves in areas such as Rigodak in Balochistan can attract from Saudi Arabia under the SIFC. Agriculture in Pakistan can attract huge investments from a desert like country of Saudi Arabia.

Investment in machinery, skills, irrigation projects and development of good quality seeds is in Pakistan is in the self-interest of ~~good~~ a barren land like Saudi Arabia.

Moreover, ~~the~~ the energy deficient Pakistan can seek investment from an oil-based economy like Saudi Arabia (Investment in oil reserves in areas like Balochistan).

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Chances of Investment from China:

Food and Agriculture:

Since China is a huge consumer of rice; investments in agriculture pertinent to rice production such as pesticides, irrigation systems, solar based tubewells is possible under the supervision of SIFC.

Technology, solar panels and other commodities:

Since Pakistan has a huge market potential due to its growing population, Chinese investors in technology such as mobile phones, computers and laptops can open franchises in Pakistan. Commodities such as solar panels,

Solar panel

Investment in the production of ⁱⁿ the energy-deficient Pakistan can also be expected.

Copper and other rare minerals:

Copper is a necessary element needed to produce semi-conductor chips which form the basis of Artificial intelligence. Huge reserves of copper are found in areas like Balochistan which can attract Chinese investors since semi-conductors are ^{the} basis for US China competition in technology.

Conclusion:

Pakistan's rich natural resources and huge market potential can attract significant investment from China and M. East which can aid the ~~also~~ ailing economy of Pak.

